

SoLiS

Newsletter of the

Southeast Library System

SOWINGS —	September 2014

There are a fair number of librarians in our field that contend that libraries are more about community connections than about books, myself included. Books are just one of the tools that librarians use to connect people to information and entertainment. It turns out that this idea isn't as new as you may think. Take a look at this quote attributed to Melvil Dewey (yes, THAT Melvil Dewey):

"A library's function is to give the public in the quickest and cheapest way information, inspiration, and recreation. If a better way than the book can be found, we should use it."

For someone that is famous for figuring out a logical way to shelve books, it is interesting that he is quoted as saying that we should be willing to look beyond the book, even back at the beginning of the 20th century.

Books are wonderful tools, but they aren't our only tools. As an analogy, let's look at current episodes of "This Old House". They are there to take a building, which has been put through a lot, and give it new life and a new vibrancy for the people who will be spending time in it. When they work on it, they use a combination of traditional and new tools, methods and materials. Sometimes the craftsmanship of a hammer and chisel is what is needed to get just the right effect. Other times the speed and durability of self-leveling, quick drying cement is what is needed to get that new basement floor done in time for the next part of the project. In the end, using the entirety of their toolbox, they get the house to be what the homeowners what they need.

So are you keeping things "old school" just because you can or because it is really the best thing for the community? On the flip side, are you pushing every new idea in librarianship because it is new and shiny, or because the community needs that new thing?

So what good are librarians in this new age of librarianship? They are the ones that know which tool to pull out of the toolbox – just like Norm Abrams on "This Old House", and just like Melvil Dewey back in the day.

Scott Childers, Executive Director Southeast Library System

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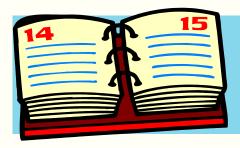
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CALENDAR

September 2014

September 11th—Patriot Day

September 17th, 1787—Signing of the US Constitution

September 18th—CASTL Meeting at Geneva Public Library

September 19th—Talk Like a Pirate Day

September 20th—Oktoberfest Begins

September 21st—27th—ALA's Banned Books Week (<u>Learn More!</u>)

September 23rd—Autumnal Equinox

September 25th—Comic Book Day

October 1st, 1903—First World Series Held

October 2nd—World Poetry Day

October 8th—10th—NLA/NSLA Conference in South Sioux City

October 13th—Columbus Day, SELS Office Closed

October 17th—CASTL Meeting at Morton-James Public Library, Nebraska City

October 22nd—CAPS LOCK DAY

October 31st—Halloween

Photo of the Month



Brenda Cunningham at the NCHS Community Pep Rally, by the Geek the Library booth, with her favorite cheerleader! (Photo courtesy of Brenda Cunningham.)

CASTL Wrap-Up

Upcoming CASTL Meetings

September 18 Geneva

October 17 Nebraska City

November 13 Friend

December 19 York August's CASTL meeting was held on August 21st at Tecumseh Public Library, and was hosted by Susan Kerner. We began the meeting with a special presentation on sales tax for non-profit organizations, which was given by Steve Drzaic from the Nebraska Department of Revenue. The presentation was very comprehensive, but many of the tax issues covered fell under two general rules. First, the sales tax rate is determined by where you take possession of the item or taxable service, not necessarily the location of the business itself. Second, when there is a sale or a fundraiser, free-will-donations are non-taxable, whereas sales tax would be due on items that have a retail price or "suggested donation" listed.

That afternoon, we had the traditional round robin discussion. Many libraries are still working towards accreditation. Summer reading programs have wound down or finished, and everyone reported having a fantastic turnout this year. Pawnee City took summer reading a step further with an adults vs. teens reading competition, which the adults ended up winning.

There were a couple questions about how to respond to disruptive people. One was regarding a patron who is awfully smelly, but is otherwise just fine. The consensus was that what this patron was doing could be considered "disruptive to the library", and some consequences could be included in a patron code-of-conduct policy. Another question was raised about vendors who drop in or call the library in order to sell books. Most people suggested telling the vendors to go away and not to call or come back, and that that should be enough to make them stop.

The book talk for this CASTL meeting was "Books You've Read Since the Last CASTL." See our Goodreads list for more details: https://www.goodreads.com/list/show/78371.August_2014_CASTL

Summer Reading Workshop—November 7

The Southeast Library System's Summer Reading Workshop will be held November 7th, at Walt Branch Library in Lincoln, NE. The theme this year is "Heroes" - both superheroes and everyday heroes. Mrs. Science will fill us in on the cool science behind superheroes, and Sally Snyder will present the latest in children's and young adult books. Two more super-sessions are being confirmed as you read this article.

There will be more details about registration, catering, and additional presenters in the October newsletter!



News Around the System

"Yesterday's Lady" Fashions Visit DeWitt

By Gerry Powers

On July 5th, Sue McLain from Beatrice shared some of her vintage dresses at the DeWitt Library for a program on holiday fashions, called "Yesterday's Lady". She showed several "lingerie" dresses, which are white and of a light cotton material and were worn by fashiona-

ble ladies in the early 1900's. She shared her Halloween dress and also a Christmas suit. Sue and her husband live on the top two floors of the Historic 18187 Schmuck building in the heart of downtown Beatrice. Sue's vintage clothing collection and shop are on the main floor. She has been collecting vintage clothing since 1985. Her programs "A Step Back in Time" are one of the programs made possible by the Nebraska Humanities council and NHC speakers Bureau.



Story of Dismissed Charges in New Book

By Karen Mier

On August 7th, John Ferak visited the Plattsmouth Public Library to give a presentation on his book, Bloody Lies: a CSI Scandal in the Heartland, about the murders in Murdock, NE. Ferak was joined by two others for this book discussion:

Julie Bear is a Plattsmouth criminal defense attorney who works for the Cass County Public Defender's Office. In a great accomplishment, Bear in December 2006 secured the dismissal of double-murder charges against her court-appointed client, Matt Livers. At that point, Livers had spent nearly eight full months in jail, wrongly accused by law enforcement of killing his uncle and aunt, Wayne and Sharmon Stock of rural Murdock, Nebraska.



From left: Julie Bear, John Ferak, & Jerry Soucie.

Jerry Soucie of Lincoln has worked for several years as a statewide court-appointed public defender. Soucie often represents indigent clients accused of violent capital offenses such as murder. In 2006, Soucie was appointed by the Cass County judicial system to represent Murdock native, Nick Sampson, who was also charged with the killings of Murdock farmers Wayne and Sharmon Stock, along with Nick's cousin, Matt Livers. After Nick Sampson had spent nearly six months in jail, Soucie was able to convince prosecutors to dismiss the murder charges against Nick Sampson. Like Matt Livers, Nick Sampson had also been wrongfully accused by police of committing the Stock killings.

"The Aviator's Wife" Visits Seward

By Charlotte
Baldinger



On Sunday, September 14 Seward Memorial Library will host Melanie Benjamin the author of *The Aviator's Wife*. This novel was chosen as the 2014 *All Seward Reads Together* selection. Benjamin's presentation will begin at 2 p.m. Her one-hour program will focus on her best-selling, historical novel, *The Aviator's Wife* as well as provide insights into her other writing successes. There will be an opportunity for discussion and questions followed by refreshments. Her books will be available for purchase and signing. If you are unable to attend the program in Seward, Melanie will also be doing a presentation in Crete on Monday, September 15 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church and on Tuesday, September 16 at the Kilgore Memorial Library in York. Both evening programs begin at 7 p.m.

Go on a Blind Date... With a Book!

By Heather Koeneke

The Auburn Memorial Library has begun offering blind dates—with books! Each book is covered, and readers can choose a book based on the clues attached to it. Once they take the book home, they can unwrap it and enjoy! "Rate Your Date" cards are available, as well; anyone who gives feedback is eligible for a prize!

"Hey, I just met you, and this is crazy, I have no cover, so read me maybe??"



Tomato Tasting at Beatrice Library

By Joanne Neemann

The First Annual Tomato Tasting was held Tuesday, August 19th at the Beatrice Public Library, & featured 30 different varieties provided by 14 local growers. Over 40 participants voted for the tastiest tomato, and 19 of the choices received at least one vote. The winner was the Supersweet 100 grown by both Lisa Clabaugh and Marian De Buhr. The biggest tomato was a Beefeater grown by Mike and Michelle Ottersberg. The weirdest-shaped

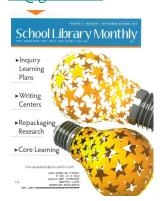
tomato was grown by Marian De Buhr. The most unusual tomato was the Emerald Evergreen grown by Jerry Meyer.



The Tomato Tasting was part of the ongoing Seed Library Program series. Partners in the Seed Collection Library are the Nebraska UNL Master Gardeners, Southeast Nebraska Farmers' Market Coalition, Main Street Beatrice, Homestead National Monument of America and the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum. For more information about the Seed Library or any related programs and activities, contact the Library at 402-223-3584.

New Journals Added to Journal Article Service

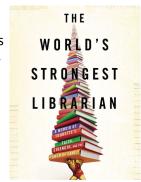
We are happy to announce that both School Library Monthly and Library Sparks magazines have been added to SELS' Journal Article Request Service! Both publications have great information for school libraries and children's programs. To enroll, email the SELS office at selsne@gmail.com.





One Book, Many Librarians

At the Nebraska Library
Association conference this
October, Southeast Library
System will host the 11th
annual "One Book, Many
Librarians" book discussion. It will be held Thursday, October 9th at
3:30pm; see the conference
program for room details.



This year's discussion title is Josh Hanagarne's The World's Strongest Librarian: A Memoir of Tourette's, Faith, Strength, and the Power of Family. As part of the book discussion, there will be free wine! Stop by for good conversation and a bit to drink while exploring a good book!

Tidbits & Fast Facts!

- → From Denise Lawver: "The Wahoo Public Library is re-opening on Monday, September 8, 9 months after our water disaster! Special thanks to all the libraries in the Southeast System for their kind words and donations of money and books during our time of trouble. We are glad to join such a wonderful group of libraries!"
- → Need a ride to conference this year? Got an extra seat or two in your car and wouldn't mind picking someone up? Sign up at http://www.rickyrides.com/nlansla-annual-conference and let others know.

A New Van for SELS

The SELS office has a new van! On September 10, the 2009 Dodge Caravan was traded in for a 2014 Dodge Caravan. We're looking forward to carpooling with everyone in the new van!







(New Van)

SELS Open House—Good Times Had by All

The SELS office hosted an open house on August 14th, after the Annual Meeting. Thank you to everyone who stopped by to say hi! It was wonderful seeing everyone at the new office. Special thanks to the SELS Friends for providing the snacks, wine, and flowers.







ELS/SELS Youth Services Retreat Recap

The ELS/SELS Youth Retreat was held September 4-5, at the Carol Joy Holling Conference & Retreat Center in Ashland, NE. There were many sessions and presenters; here is a sampling of what happened:



Michael Sauers and Gordon Wyant give a demonstration of the Raspberry Pi portable computer.



Making drums out of wooden frames and packing tape, under the instruction of Michael Fitzsimmons.



The teen programming panel: Paul Christopherson, Lindsey Tomsu, Keahna Wood, Susan Steider, and Kris Cram.



A conflict resolution discussion and demonstration, led by Jim Shaul.

SELS Board Meeting Minutes June 20, 2014 Pawnee City Public Library, Pawnee City

Board Members Present: Becky Baker (Seward Memorial Library); Carolyn Bennett (Beatrice Public Library); Rebecca Bernthal (University of Nebraska-Lincoln); Ruth Carlock (Levitt Library, York College); Karen Frank (Greenwood Public Library); Aimee Morlan (Weeping Water Public Library); Kent Munster (Clark Enersen Partners); Dorothy Willis (Pawnee City Public Library); and Glenda Willnerd (Palmyra Memorial Library).

Also Present: Scott Childers (SELS Director); Wendy Mackey (SELS Administrative Assistant); Richard Miller (Nebraska Library Commission), and Lola Seitz (Director at Pawnee City Public Library).

Board Members Absent: Sabrina Riley (Union College); Jan Thomsen (Alice M. Farr Library, Aurora).

Meeting was called to order by Dorothy Willis at 10:00 a.m.

Introductions: Everyone introduced themselves and told where they worked.

Consent Agenda

April 24, 2014 Minutes

Take those absent out of the "Board Member's Present".

Transaction Report

Becky moved and Karen seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed.

Budget update:

The rent for the new space includes \$100 for utilities. They had budgeted last year for \$75 and it actually ran about \$100. The Summer Reading Workshop did not break even. Some people thought it was too far to travel. Extravaganza went well. Scott said they received good comments on the evaluations.

Continuation Budget for July 2014 - December 2014

During the transition period, what SELS has received in quarterly payments will stay the same. The proposed budget is a 6 months budget. A budget for the next 6 months will be prepared in January. Some things are left out because they will be paid at the end of the year in the next 6 month budget. The only workshop expected will be Summer Reading. Fifty dollars is planned for that. The utilities will be \$600. The Association dues will be for Wendy. Scott's dues come after January. The money for professional development will be for the NLA Conference. Income will be received in two quarterly payments. Richard asked about board mileage since \$0 was budgeted for it. So far for this year it has only been \$9.72. The question was asked if there would be money to carry over to next year. About \$30,000 is in an interest bearing account. Scott is thinking about saving this for when we need a new van. This extra is from Brenda leaving, Scott being part time for a while, and SELS being without an assistant for a while. No pay raise is included in this budget. Windstream gave SELS some free fax to email so they don't need to purchase new equipment for faxing. SELS may need to purchase a new computer after January. The Executive Committee met yesterday to evaluate Scott and suggested he be given a raise. Richard said the Commission got a 2.5% raise. Becky and Karen suggested a 3% raise for Scott. Rebecca made a motion to give Scott a 2.5% raise like the Commission had received, and Glenda seconded. Discussion ensued. After the discussion, Rebecca accepted the friendly amendment to offer Scott a 3% raise. All approved. Scott will adjust the budget proposal and send it out to the Board next week.

The van is a 2009 and has a little over 100,000 miles. It was suggested this might be a good time to trade. Becky suggested choosing a van that was more comfortable for people to ride in rather than one for moving cargo. Scott will begin looking into replacing the vehicle.

Becky moved that we approve the proposed budget. Rebecca seconded. The motion was approved.

Board membership during transition

SELS will be adding 5 more counties with the transition to 4 regional systems. Becky moved that the present members and officers stay the same until the change takes place. Karen seconded. There will be an attorney involved with the transition to be sure everything is legal. The Motion was approved.

Scott had prepared a plan for an SELS Transition Team made up of 3 representatives from the current SELS area, one from Saunders County, one from Polk, Merrick, or Butler counties and one from Clay or Nuckolls counties. They would be looking at the mission statement, bylaws with an emphasis on Board makeup & representation, the services provided, and the articles of incorporation. The team will be formed by the end of June, have the first meeting in mid-July, and have the results for the October SELS meeting. Scott wants to keep the same time schedule as the other systems. Becky moved that the transition team be formed as planned and that Scott appoint the team. Kent seconded. Motion approved. It was suggested that SELS might want to change our name, but then we have worked so hard to be known others might wonder what happened to SELS. We could have a different Logo. The team will make suggestions.

Purchasing card -

SELS currently has two credit card accounts with Pinnacle Bank. Scott has one and Will had the other which will be cancelled. No one remembered when the SELS account was ever at Pinnacle Bank. Each card has a \$15 annual fee. They could go to Union Bank and get two cards free since that is where SELS has their account. It was suggested that they get credit cards instead of a debit card. Scott can handle that as office management.

Shelving for storage room

Scott would like to have new shelving. This would probably cost around \$300. Kent suggested purchasing simple wire utility shelving that will hold a lot of weight and will last as long as needed. Scott will pursue that. Richard will check to see if the Library Commission might have some shelving that they don't need and if so have Scott come see if what they have would work. This can be handled as office management.

Routing journals alternative

Scott suggested sending out a copy of the contents for a journal and then preparing a PDF to send to whoever would like a copy of an article. People could get access faster and it wouldn't have to be sent on. Some journals have the contents open access so he would only need to send a link to access those contents. Some questioned if this would be violating copyright since we can only copy an article five times in a certain time period for interlibrary loan. Scott will check this but his initial checking indicated it wouldn't be a copyright problem. Richard will check on the information on copyright at the Commission.

Executive Director Report:

The Board looked over the print out of Scott's report. There was a question about teaching the Basic Skills classes. The System Directors are teaching some of these classes. It is good for them to be involved. Laura Johnson planned the classes in Moodle, but others are also teaching it. She likes feedback from the other teachers.

Scott didn't get out as much in May with Will leaving and Extravaganza. The June 10th meeting with UNL libraries

went well. Scott wanted to thank Becky for handling the Golden Sower day. Next year they will plan to do it separate from CASTL. The strangest correspondence Scott received this year was people looking for dehumidifiers for the school library over the summer. Scott announced that the office is ready for a visit.

SELS Friends Report

This summer is kind of a quiet time for the Friends. They plan to show a couple of movies in the fall. Aged to Perfection went well and brought in about \$185. If the Friends account stays at \$5000 by July 1, they will be able to give some scholarships.

NLC Report

The Board looked at the 7 page print out of Richard's report. We all know about the new Regional Library System Configuration. Each year the Center for Public Affairs Research at the University of Nebraska Omaha presents the Annual Data Users Conference. It is always well done. It costs \$60 to attend or \$50 to attend via the Web. Children and teens that complete a Libraries Summer Reading Program will have an opportunity to win a \$529 scholarship for their college saving plan. The names need to be sent in by August 15, 2014 and the drawing will be held on August 29th. The library where the winner participated will also receive a \$250 prize. Fifteen of these scholarships will be available. There was a list of the 21st Century Librarian Scholarships that were granted. Lincoln City Libraries received a 21st Century Internship Grant. They were the only library to apply. The Commission has set up a Nebraska Program Performers Database. Performers are recommended by libraries following a successful event. At present there are about 22 entries, but they are encouraging libraries to submit the names of the performers they would recommend. The BTOP grants ended some time ago, but the 147 libraries that completed the grant effort have heard of the Edge Initiative. This is designed to help a library make strategic decisions about technology services and connect with their community's needs and wants. N-Compass Live had two speakers on this topic. Richard handed out a report on the Pilger Library after their recent tornado. They didn't lose any books. That area of the library was not damaged. The library will need a new roof and one window was broken allowing dirt to blow into the library. A relief fund has been set up. There are also low-interest loans available for repair or replacement of real estate, inventory, equipment, etc. that were damaged in a declared disaster. These loans are provided by the U.S. Small Business Administration. Refugees come into our culture and have no clue about the cultural norms we take for granted. Marty Magee has shared information from Healthy Roads Media that is offering short videos with health-related information in 33 languages. For "Letters about Literature" students in grades 4-6, 7-8, and 9-12 write a personal letter to an author (living or dead) about how that author's work has changed their thinking about the world. The winners come to Lincoln to receive their award which includes a cash prize. Their letters are placed into the archives of the Jane Pope Geske Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors at Lincoln City Libraries. Laura Johnson sends out a post a blog about free webinars of interest to libraries. Trustees can watch these webinars. On July 2, Richard will be giving a talk on accreditation on the NCompass Live program. The third Pew Study on Libraries has been released. There are new categories of groups of people and they were asked why they do or do not support public libraries. About 10% were library lovers. There is more information at http:// www.pewinternet.org/.

Committee Meetings:

The Committees didn't have a need to meet.

Reports from around the System (if time allows)

Carolyn said the Beatrice Public Library has an open hole with orange tape around it. The Contractor has decided the library needs to close for 5 days and they may be given only a days' notice of when. Laureen Riedesel, their

Library Director, is out of town. Some of the staff has vacation time they can take, but others want to work even if the public cannot come in. The air conditioner will be turned off. The library is very noisy as there is drilling, etc. all the time. Carolyn asked us to keep happy thoughts coming their way.

Rebecca said the UNL Library has four staff positions that need replacements.

Becky said a place across the street has been donated by the City Council for parking. Meghan applied for and received a Google Maker camp. They will have this camp 5 days in a row. The camp included 100s of dollars of gifts. Google didn't give them much notice. The library was given everything they needed for the camp. They also applied for and received a Blue Cross Blue Shield program grant for ADA. They will have classes on how to use these things such as weighted hula hoops, Frisbees, etc. The classes will be running July, August, and September and in future summers.

Karen said their last week of summer reading is next week. She has had a 12 year old helper this year that had been there years before. It has been good. The Friends picked up the cost.

Richard said that he talked by phone to Lori Ruskamp, the library director at Pilger. There are other librarians wanting to help, but the Library is really fine. They need a new roof, but that will be covered by insurance. The computers got dirty, but if they don't work, they will be replaced by insurance. The books were not damaged. Only one book fell off the shelf. The books are already packed up and are in a Pod. Richard asked Scott to send a message about Pilger out to the System.

Lola said for Pawnee City's Summer Reading they do a week long hour and a half grouping with different age groups. The children have been doing experiments downstairs and outside. They have a higher percent of readers this year. They are excited. It has been a lot of fun. Lola will be alone next month. It is time to plan a budget again. Their building is 3 years old. Lola recently had to replace the cleaning lady. Their Foundation pays for that. Lola did a community survey. Lola said it was a very good survey and one that other organizations could use. Pawnee City Public Library got the Monsanto grant again. She worked with an Extension Agent who donated a lot of materials to do the project.

Glenda said the Palmyra library had a picnic and an old book sale. They are planning for Summer Reading which will be held at the Senior Center. There are 51 children signed up for it in July. They have no budget for Summer Reading so Glenda asked the bank if they would finance it. They told her she needed to submit the request at the beginning of the year, but last night she got an email saying they are giving her \$100 for it. She is working on accreditation. The survey is finished. She was told they couldn't do some things so she is stepping back and looking at it and seeing what they can do. She decided to have movie night. She will collaborate with the youth group and other organizations in town and offer it once a month at the Senior Center. Becky said the license would only be good in her library so she couldn't do it in the Senior Center. Glenda said she would have to do some more checking on it to see if she could work something out to not violate copyright. She is also looking at preparing an online newsletter. Lola suggested that she find a volunteer to do the newsletter. That is what they do in Pawnee City.

Aimee said that in April they had a group come and put on a Family Nature night. They had different stations with animals and plants. Backpacks were given out. They had over 100 people come. Their Summer Reading begins July 1st.

Kent said they are working on a few projects. The Ashland library is under construction and should be completed in November or December. They are also helping plan a renovation to the Winfield Kansas Public Library. Their building didn't transfer into the electronic world very easily. Outside Wichita, the Mulvane Public Library is planning a new facility. They are working on the upgrades and changes at Love Library. Plans are being made for a

new Blair Public Library. They have a very small building and this will about double their size. There are plans to have the Danish records there.

Ruth said that York College has had a group of about 20 Sojourners on campus for three weeks helping with various jobs on campus. She had 3-6 ladies that helped in the library. They withdrew a little over five dumpsters full of older periodicals. The shelves had gotten so full there was no room to shelve anything new. Leo, the Interlibrary Loan person has been out since March. He had surgery on one foot and two weeks later fell and broke his other leg. He was finally able to come back to work on Monday.

Scott said that Ruth Kowalski, the Director at the Geneva Public Library, has taken a teaching job. She is trying to get accreditation done before she leaves in July.

Upcoming Board Meetings:

The Annual Meeting will be on August 14th beginning at 1:00 p.m. Whoever wants can come to La Paz at 11:30 for lunch. They are to park at SELS and walk over. An Open House will be held from 4:00 - 6:00 pm for those that want to see the new SELS office space.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Ruth Carlock, Secretary

Southeast Library System

Serving libraries in the counties of:

Cass • Fillmore • Gage • Hamilton •
Jefferson • Johnson • Lancaster •
Nemaha • Otoe • Pawnee •
Richardson • Saline •
Seward • Thayer • York

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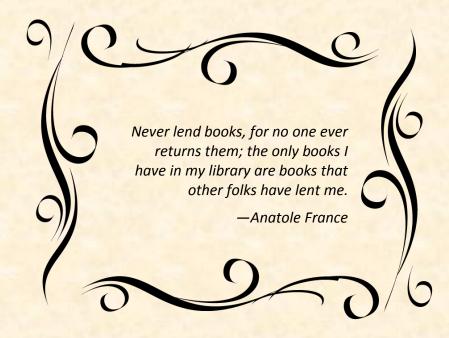
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SoLiS is a publication of the Southeast Library System, and is issued once monthly. We reserve the right to screen and to edit all contributions.

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Southeast Library System is a multi-type library network with 248 members offering a wide range of service in public, school, academic, institutional and private libraries (Membership list with populations from 2000 Census are on the SELS web page: www.selsne.org.) Membership includes 12 academic institutions, including the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, four private colleges, three community college campuses, a state college and a technical school. Fifty-four public libraries are system members. The majority of these libraries (34) serve populations fewer than 1,000. The system counts 146 school media centers among its members, 54 that are Lincoln Public Schools, with most of those belonging to Class 3 schools (population areas between 1,000 and 100,000). Fourteen of the school media centers are parochial. The system has 28 special and institutional members, most of which are located in Lancaster County.